GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:289
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2002
TELEPHONE FAULT
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that on several occasions defects in the Telephone cable are causing great hardship to subscribers in many States particularly in Delhi and Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to tackle the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steps taken by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) for Delhi and by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for Andhra Pradesh, to tackle the situation are given in the annexure.

Annexure

Steps taken by MTNL for Delhi.

1. Fault Control centres have been set up at the Headquarters as well as at Area levels to effectively monitor the clearance of cable faults.

2. More cable jointing staff is deployed for speedy rectification of cable faults particularly during monsoon.

3. All paper core cables are proposed to be replaced by Optical Fibre Cable/ PIJF cable in a time bound manner.

4. More switching nodes like Remote Subscriber Unit (RSU)/Digital Loop Carrier (DLC) are being opened so as to reduce the length of underground cables in customer`s Loop.

5. New Technology Equipment in Customer Access Network viz. Wireless Local Loop (WLL) and CORDECT are being introduced.

6. A co-ordination committee comprising of senior officers from all civic bodies viz. MCD, NDMC, DVB, MTNL and Private Telecom Operators, has been constituted by the Hon`ble Lt. Governor of Delhi on the initiative of MTNL, to evolve suitable mechanism for avoiding damages to existing network of underground cables.

Steps taken by BSNL for Andhra Pradesh

1. Co-ordination meetings are being held with the concerned Department/parties.

2. The cables are being shifted wherever possible due to widening of roads.

3. `Dial before dig` is displayed in major routes.

4. Control Rooms are opened in all the District Headquarters and also in Circle Headquarters during monsoons for monitoring the cable breakdowns effectively.